(vi) In the recently announced FTP, enhanced duty credit scrip of 2.5% (instead of the normal 1.25% under FPTS) is offered for export of high value added manufactured products.

(vii) Basic Customs Duty on bait fish used for fishing of tuna (ITC HS code "030379") is reduced from 30% to NIL *vide* Notification No. 21/2008-Customs.

(viii) The Customs duty payable under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme has been reduced from 5% to 3%.

(ix) Allowed extension of time upto 31.03.2009 for issue of DS-2031 Certificate by MPEDA in respect of consignment being exported directly to USA and also through third countries.

(x) The Marine Products Export Development Authority continues to operate the various schemes for extending technical and financial assistance to the seafood processing units all over India for modernization of the processing units and also for technology upgradation for production and export of value added marine products.

Concessions for export of rice

†3883. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that schemes on economic concessions for export of Basmati and non-Basmati rice in the first 9 months of the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2007-08 were implemented by the Government;

(b) if so, the names of these schemes; and

(c) the extent of likely revenue loss under these schemes during each of the above years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Prior to 27.03.2008, export of non-Basmati rice and prior to 03.04.2008, export of Basmati rice were entitled for Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) benefit. This has been discontinued vide DGFT's Public Notice No. 130 dated 27.03.2008 and Public Notice No. 137 dated 03.04.2008 respectively for subsequent exports.

Other schemes operational are Advance Authorisation and Duty Free Import Authorisation (DFIA), wherein duty free imports are allowed for export production. All these schemes are not economic concessions, but are duty neutralization schemes and hence cannot be treated as schemes with revenue loss. Incremental exports in 2004-05 over 2003-04, were eligible for Target Plus Scheme benefit. Rice was in item included in it. This benefit was withdrawn for cereals in 2005-06. It is not possible to separately compute benefit for rice exports under this in 2004-05.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.